



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: ~~#~~ 5A
Examiner:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Please add:

Abstract

~A technique for synchronizing databases in which different techniques are used for storing a recurring event. A database in which the recurring event is, for example, stored as a single recurring record can be synchronized with a database in which the same recurring event is stored as a series of individual records. The individual records are processed to form a synthetic recurring record representing the set of individual records, and synchronization decisions are based on a comparison of the synthetic record to the recurring record of the other database. Following synchronization, the synthetic record can be "fanned" back into the individual records to update the database containing individual records, and the updated recurring record can be written back to the other database. In this way, the

Date of Deposit February 18, 1997
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

20251. Jenica R Stone

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